

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Amendment is filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.312 and prior to payment of the issue fee for the above-referenced application. As such, entry of the same is respectfully requested.

This Amendment is submitted subsequently to the receipt of the Notice of Allowance mailed on February 24, 2007. Upon entry of the instant amendment, Claims 1, 13, 14, 23 and 24 will be pending in the Application and stand allowed. The indication of allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. Claims 1 and 23 are amended by the present Amendment. No new matter is added.

In accordance with MPEP 714.16, Applicant respectfully submits that the instant amendment should be entered because it does not require any additional search or examination and pending Claims 1, 13, 14, 23 and 24 are patentable for the same reasons that the allowed Claims 1, 13, 14, 23 and 24 were allowed. As such, no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the office is required.¹

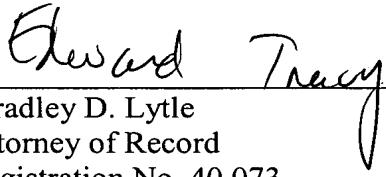
Upon further review of the allowed claims once the above-noted Notice of Allowance was received, it came to the attention of Applicants' representative that Claims 1 and 23 required a minor correction from the Examiner's amendment made concurrently with the notice of allowance. Accordingly, the instant amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 has been submitted.

¹ See MPEP 714.16 stating that when amendments "require no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office, they may be considered and, if proper, entry may be recommended by the primary examiner."

Based on the above-noted remarks, entry of this amendment is thus respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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